Rome May 19th 1866

My dear Tom

On the other side I have written an order for the £7 for dear Maria who I hope is now well & also I trust the same of your own dear self, but if unfortunately you should be suffering like myself I have made the order payable to your son Montague as well as you. Ever since the severe loss of my gifted daughter my nerves have suffered & a general shattered has been the consequence & now particularly in my left hand & arm so that I write with pain & can only send you a short scrawl — I went to the sea at Porto d'Anzo for 11 days but my pains left me but on my return here they have come back so I am waiting for the heat & then I'm told by the Doctors that the sulphur baths of Tivoli

will cure me – I hope to hear a good & pleasant account of you all

It would seem that we shall be all in the midst of war shortly for the cause of Venice, for the Italians show immense enthusiasm & sacrifice

My dear daughter Eleanor is with me does now very well, she has still her f.d Miss Winter staying with us, which is very pleasant

My Son Arthur is in Algiers, but I hear a sad account of the London Bank wherein he put all his little savings, that now he is likely to lose all, that is dolefull to a young artist

To your last f.d I have not been able to give attention such as I would have like owing to all these harrowing circumstances yet except my rheumatism, I am in every respect doing well, my Constitution respected my painting flourishing, great power & doing good & no inclination to do harm

Your loving brother Joe

My love to all not forgetting Charley & his